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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventor: Katsuji SATOMI et al. Group Art Unit: 2824
Appln. No.: 10/772,323 Examiner: E. Wendler
Filed: February 6, 2004
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated February 10, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in light of the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Final Rejection that claims 1-10 are allowed.

Claim 11 stands rejected, under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Yamaguchi (US 5,297,078). Claim 12 stands rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi in view of Hidaka (US 6,816,418). Claim 13 stands rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi in view of Nakayama et al. (US 5,371,705). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the following points.